

**REGULAR SESSION**  
**MINUTES OF February 16, 2000**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**REGIONAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM**

**TIME AND PLACE**

The Board of Directors meeting was held on Wednesday, February 16, 2000 at DPLU, Suite B, 5201 Ruffin Road, San Diego, CA 92123.

**ATTENDANCE**

Directors Present

Chief Dennis Van Der Maaten, Carlsbad Fire Department (RCS Chair)  
Asst. Sheriff Tom Zoll, County of San Diego, Sheriff Department (RCS Vice Chair)  
Chief Roger, Purdie, Vista Fire Department  
Chief Darrell Jobes, East County FPD  
Chief Erwin Willis, Rancho Santa Fe Fire Department  
Mr. Dan Eberle, ODP, County of San Diego

Alternate Directors

Mr. Ali Zolfaghari, Caltrans (Alternate for Dan Johnson)  
Mr. Jeff Fehlberg, HCFA (Alternate for Larry Jackman)

Guests:

Chief John Traylor, Coronado Fire Department  
Sgt. Ron Smithson, El Cajon Police Department  
PK Kushner, San Diego Police Department  
Chief George George, Solana Beach Fire Department  
Jake Thompson, San Diego Fire Department

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by the Chair of the RCS Board of Directors, Fire Chief Dennis Van Der Maaten at 1:37 p.m.

1. **Purpose of the Meeting:** To conduct business of the RCS.
2. **Approval of the Minutes:** The approval of the minutes of January 19 and February 1, 2000 meetings is a continued item for the next Board meeting.4.
4. **Expenditures:**
  - 4.1 **Project Expenditures:** Total expenses is \$645,000. The major expenditures were paid for site construction (Tower Structures) and computer aided dispatch system (IPS).
  - 4.2. **CSA 135:** Total expenses is \$44,000. The County paid the infrastructure payment for the system as scheduled. Imperial Beach opted to pay their backbone share out of

their CSA 135 account and the rest were payments requested by the cities of Del Mar, Poway, and San Marcos for their NOC.

- 4.3 **RCS NOC Revenue:** January billing is \$95,000. Billing to date is \$1,183,000 and the revenue collected is \$1,007,000.

5 **RCS Network Operations Update**

- 5.1 **System Status and network performance:** There were planned and unplanned network incidents for the month of January. One scheduled incident resulted in an outage of 25 minutes at Mt. Soledad that unexpectedly impacted Encinitas and Solana Beach. Staff will revise the format of sending out the notices, particularly to the affected RCS users. The changes will include more detailed information regarding the planned outage and suggested solutions should a problem arise. Staff also suggested that dispatch managers be reminded that they can request that the planned outage be rescheduled to a less intrusive data/time by calling the Network Maintenance Group at (858) 694-5460. Wireless Services Unit staff will modify the schedule as necessary.
- 5.2 **January system busies report:** Staff reported that two more channels were added to North Peak simulcast that successfully reduced the number of busies. Staff will continue to add channel capacity in the IR sites, as frequencies become available.
- 5.3 **Talkgroup “priority scan” feature:** Due to the fact that all subscriber radios have the priority scan feature activated, we are experiencing instances when messages are being partially or totally missed. Dispatch managers of RCS departments are identifying which talkgroups and/or radios can have the priority scan deactivated, to shorten the necessary system processing time. Staff is removing the priority scan feature from all public service radios to see if the system performance impact is helpful.
- 5.4 **DOJ Justice Wireless Network Interface:** Staff has not sent out the notice on the implementation because the Border Patrol has not yet provided specific instruction to their staff regarding how the interface should be used. Staff is discussing the possibility to add a 2<sup>nd</sup> interface resource to allow both County Call and County Tac 1 to fully utilize this network interface pilot project. The JWN-RCS interface is in an evaluation mode for one year. Staff will continue to provide the Board a monthly update.
- 5.5 **Implementation of Reward Talkgroup:** A demo was presented during the meeting for Board’s suggestion and discussion. Staff recommendation is to use an 800 number with a \$50 reward. There were suggestions to make use of 9-1-1 and to get insurance bond to cover any losses. Board directed staff to come back with a final recommendation.

6. **Marketing Committee Update**

- 6.1 **Update on the proposals to Escondido, La Mesa, Chula Vista, Coronado, and Oceanside:** Staff is putting together the board letter to request the County Board of Supervisors to approve the RCS Board recommendation to accept these cities as member partners of the RCS for March 14 County Board meeting. The Cities of

Escondido and La Mesa have set schedules for their respective city council meetings. Chula Vista is verifying cost information from Motorola. Coronado is ready to go.

- 6.2 **Update on the proposal to provide a radio repair fee service for agencies:** Staff is still putting together the recommendation both in the form of contract or time and material fee service. Although staff has more or less an idea how to charge, staff needs more time to come up with a well-planned recommendation before it can be presented to the Board.

7. **Action Items:**

- 7.1 **M/S/A** a data application on the voice network for the DOT irrigation control radios at the prevailing rate per radio per month approved by the Board for FY '00-'01. This will generate estimated NOC revenue of \$2,210 based on \$22.10 rate per radio per month.
- 7.2 **M/S/A** directed staff to set up an interest bearing account for a RCS trust fund to deposit over realized revenue and to bring it back to the board for approval.
- 7.3 The approval for the NOC FY '00-'01 is a continued item for the next board meeting. The Board will receive the budget information ahead of time before the meeting in an e-mail format to give time to review and prepare their questions/comments.

8. **Open Forum:**

- ♦ Mr. Dan Eberle suggested modifying the RCS agreement to ensure that the absence of Imperial County board members from RCS Board meetings does not prevent having a quorum.
- ♦ Asst. Sheriff Tom Zoll gave an update that Imperial Irrigation District (IID) is building an 800 MHz system in Imperial County. At this time, that system is being considered only for district needs. The Imperial Valley Emergency Communications Authority funding issue will be on the ballot in the form of a general tax in the March 2000 election.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 2:250 p.m. A copy of the audio-recorded minutes is available upon request at the RCS Project Office.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 15, 2000 at DPLU Hearing Room, Suite B, 5201 Ruffin Road, San Diego 92123.